



PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/653,791
	Filing Date	September 2, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
	Art Unit	2671
	Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO/SB/O8A and PTO/SB/O8B in duplicate, 4 Cited References, including a copy of PCT International Search Report, and Return Receipt Postcard.
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual name	Richard E. Wawrzyniak, Esq. (Reg. No. 36,048) Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery	
Signature		
Date	August 10, 2004	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Sara R. Hart		
Signature		Date	August 10, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IFW

Docket No. 81617 [SC-70003US]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Akio Ohba
Application No.: 10/653,791
Filed: September 2, 2003
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Group Art Unit: 2671
Examiner: Zimmerman, Mark K.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

August 10, 2004
Date

Sara R. Hart
Sara R. Hart

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

X Under 37 CFR §1.97(b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

 Under 37 CFR §1.97(c) together with either:
 a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e), or
 a fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p)
(after the 37 CFR §1.97(b) time period, but before the mailing date of a final Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution).

IDS

Application No. 10/653,791

- ____ Under 37 CFR §1.97(d) together with either:
- ____ a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e), and
 - ____ a fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) (Fee Transmittal included herewith)
(after the 37 CFR §1.97(c) time period, but on or before the payment of the issue fee).

____ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1): The undersigned states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 CFR § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all patents, publications, applications and other information known by Applicants or Applicants' representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicants' representative hereby provides this Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98 and includes Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B with four (4) references listed as items AA-AD.

Copies of the items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are enclosed.

Concise Explanation of Relevance

Item AB listed on the Form PTO/SB/O8A is not in the English language.

A concise explanation of the relevance of items AA-AC are in the form of a copy of a "International Search Report" mailed April 16, 2004, issued over the corresponding Japanese Patent Application, that was mailed from a foreign patent office and issued in a counterpart foreign application, which refers to the references. The "International Search Report" mailed April 16, 2004, which is in the English language, is listed as item AD and a copy is included herewith.

IDS

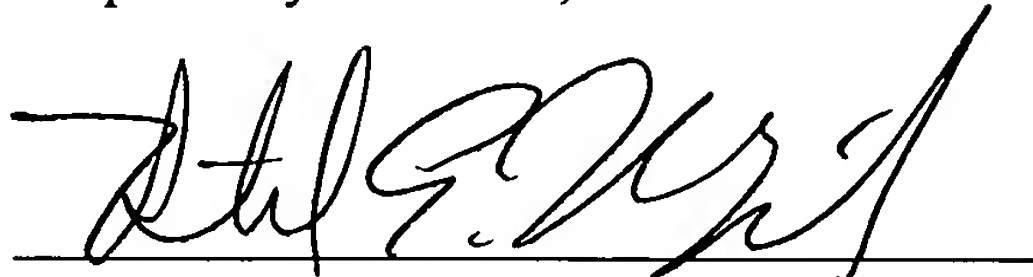
Application No. 10/653,791

In addition, item AB includes an English-language Abstract.

It is requested that the information provided herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/10/04



Richard E. Wawrzyniak

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 36,048

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/653,791
Filing Date	September 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
Art Unit	2671
Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	AB	JP 2001-043393	02-16-2001	Nagata Takashi		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
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						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/653,791
				Filing Date	September 2, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
				Art Unit	2671
				Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	AC	KWAN- LIU MA et al., "A Data Distributed, Parallel Algorithm for Ray-Traced Volume Rendering" , Parallel Rendering Symposium, 1993 San Jose, CA, USA, 25-26 October 1993, New York NY, USA, IEEE, October 25, 1993, pages 15-22, XP010222611, ISBN: 0-8186-4920-8.	
	AD	PATENT COOPERATION TREATY, "International Search Report", dated April 16, 2004, for corresponding international patent application No. PCT/JP 03/11005, 4 pages.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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